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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/901,125

Examiner

Tanim Hossain

Applicant(s)

DEMOTO, ET AL

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/20/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16 and 18-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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JASON CARDONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16 and 18-23 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims feature a communication system comprising an information server performing communication in first and second modes (where modes are exemplified as mechanisms through which data is obtained through a network. For example, one mode may have faster download rate than another, and/or modes may differ by billing options, where one mode may bill by communication time, and the other by the amount of data downloaded). A communication apparatus, applied as an integrated unit (and not as a unit disposed between a client and server), is capable of performing communication with the information server in the first and second modes to receive information sent from the server in response to a request generated by the communication apparatus and sent to the server. Further, there exists an output device for outputting the information received from the server, a connection information storage section, and a communication mode switching control section. The communication mode switching control section controls the switching of the modes with the server from the first mode to the second mode by storing connection information into the connection information storage section. Connection information is based on a condition of communication connection of the communication apparatus and the server in the first mode (where the condition is exemplified by the amount of information to be received from the server, or the type of information to be received, etc). At the time of a switch, the connection

(in the first mode) between the apparatus and server is released, where communication in the second mode is not established. Communication in the second mode is then established, without there being established communication in the first mode, and the communication connection condition (for the first mode) can be restored based on the stored connection information.

Because communication may switch between different communication modes through the stored connection information based on a condition of communication connection, it is believed that the claimed invention is novel. Examiner was unable to procure prior teachings of such features as claimed and could not render said features obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, without the use of impermissible hindsight constructions. Additionally, Applicant's remarks regarding the claims and the provided prior art references' deficiencies are persuasive, in that none of the references taken singly, or in combination, teach the claimed features. It is therefore the examiner's belief that the claimed invention does indeed possess novelty.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should clearly be labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tanim Hossain whose telephone number is 571/272-3881. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on 571/272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Tanim Hossain
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2145



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